

April 1990

The ACE



WKND broadcasts on 1620 kHz and 6240 kHz emanated from this clean-looking studio setup in suburban Pittsburgh. Gary Mathews, known as 'Radio Animal,' modeled his operation after Radio Newyork International (RNI), using two of RNI's former frequencies.

Mathews hopes to parlay his pirate broadcasting experience into employment as a DJ for a commercial radio station. He viewed his pirate operation as 'on-air' DJ training that was more exciting than simply recording his programs for later review.

8th Anniversary Issue

Greetings. Another month's worth of loggings brings the appearance of many new stations to the shortwave scene. I hope all of you have been able to hear some of these new stations during the last 30 days, and remember to send in your loggings of your "catches". The address for Dialogs is the same as the HQ address: POB 11201, Shawnee Mission Kansas 66207. **IMPORTANT:** I need your loggings by the 25th of the month, so in most cases you'll need to have them in the mail by the 20th (or earlier) so that they get to my Kansas City location by the 25th. Late loggings will be included in the next month's issue.

In another post office related matter, it has been announced that the postage for first class mail will officially be increased to 30 cents next year. Miscellaneous expenses of printing publicity sheets for the hundreds of letters we receive, post office box charges, and bank charges are impacting the budget. Post office regulations also require all out-of-country issues to be sent in envelopes, increasing our costs. The ACE is also trying to expand to handle the volume of contributions. The ACE will be looking at a rate increase for membership dues to \$18 for US residents, \$19 for Canada & Mexico, and \$25 for World Airmail, effective on July 1, 1990. I hope this does not pose a hardship for members, however, looking at our club's dues in relation to other ANARC clubs shows that we are still in the bottom half of club dues. Many organizations are now in the \$20+ category. I think we can continue to offer a lot to the pirate and clandestine enthusiasts, and I hope everyone can continue to support the ACE as we start our eighth year of publication with this issue.

Late news from Don Bishop: News from the FCC indicates another bust, this time of a clandestine station, "Radio Antorcha Martiana". This anti-Castro station, which broadcast on 7350 had been previously put off the air in 1982. The station, operated by Eloy Escago of Miami, FL, used a Yaseu FT101EX xmitter, Heathkit linear, into a wire antenna.

IMPORTANT: It appears that several stations are announcing the ACE as their maildrop. I have NO forwarding addresses or inclination to open a maildrop services. Please DO NOT send me your letters to forward, as I can do nothing with them.

Hope Radio International: 7400, 3/10, 0505-0538*, SIO=232. Pirate Radio section - talk on SW reception, TV DXing, comedy & s/off w/ Led Zeppelin mx. (COLLINS,WI) 7400, 3/11, 0519-0539*, SIO=322. Good to hear MJ again, but not too readable w/ annoying ute in background. MJ gave his lengthy, but interesting thoughts on free radio & into humorous skit on European settlement of the New World, from Native American perspective. S/off w/ Slanesville addr & eqmt info over Led Zep's "Black Mountain Side." (SMITH,NY) 7368, 3/12, 0016-0030*, SIO=444. Mentioned he did not know of ACE or Pirate Pages when he started. Thanked Grace, Ross, Zeller, Yoder & others for advice. Satire abt poor treatment of American Indians. Anncd 100 watts. (D'ANGELO,PA)

KBFA: 7415, 3/9->10, 2344-0034. Anncd as KBFA, Broadcasters of Free America w/ rock mx (Bon Jovi, etc.) Fair sig w/ mild QRN & fading. NY addr, but no details copied. Any help w/ addr.? (DUNN,OH) 7415, 3/10, 0002+, SIO=212. DJ was "the Archer." Poor sig this time. Possible skits, mx & rpts to PopComm. (TROMP,MI) 7415, 3/9, *2339-0040*, SIO=333. Anncd as 100 watts. Slick program. Pro sounding DJ. Lots of time checks in GMT. PSE QSL (PROVANCE,OH)

KMUD: 7435, 3/4, 0345-0544, SIO=222. "Spam" by Monty Python. Hilo addr. (VICKONOFF,CA via ANARC BBS) 7435, 3/5, 0228-0304. S-7 sig. ID "The Muddy Sounds of KMUD." Rock mx (Gabriel, Hornsby) DJ admired Hornsby's piano playing. Hilo addr & mentioned QTH. (RALEIGH,NV)

KNBS: 7412, 3/10, *1842-1905*, SIO=333. Test bcst w/ heavy metal mx & less pro-drug talk. Mentioned new green cards for detailed rpt. (TROMP,MI) 7413, 3/11, 1755-1806*, SIO=333. Test xmsn, not as strong as usual. Phil Muzik requested rpts to Wellsville. (ARTHUR,NY via ANARC BBS) 7412.6, 3/10, 1901-1905*, SIO=44. Wellsville address. Rock mx w/OM over song "Are we having fun yet?" (PROVANCE,OH)

KPLU KPLW(?): 7415, 3/4, 0152-0233, SIO=312. Old WLS rebroadcast, as well as a WKAU "shaving cream" marathon and KTEN rebroadcast. All

seemed to be very old broadcasts. Bad pirate QRM. PSE QSL. (PROVANCE,OH) 7514, 3/19, *0142-0209*, SIO=322+. Computer-generated voice ID & annmts for Pirate R. bumper stickers. Various old rock tunes then real OM voice gave ID & addr. Mail bag pgm in which my name & addr given, so Box 123082, Ft. Worth, TX 76121 must be a good addr for them. Same show was aired again from *0224-0252*. (TROMP,MI) 7416, 3/19, 0200-0209, 0222, 0224-0250, SIO=545. Anncd bumper stickers. Off w/ howling dog & blues tune. Back on 0222 w/ test. 0224 back on w/ mx & mailbag. Explained FFFR. (BREWER,NM) 7415, 3/19, *0224-0251*. SSB. Fairly strong, but poor audio. Ad for "Foundation for Hot Rod Truck & Tractor Pull Announcers." Ft Worth addr. Pink Floyd cut w/ title something about "Several Species of Small Furry Animals Gathered in a Cave ..." S/off w/ countryish tune. (ARRITT,KS)

One Voice Radio: 7415.1, 3/10, 1547-1548*, SIO=353. 40s song sung by YL. Off abruptly. PSE QSL. (PROVANCE,OH) 7410, 3/11, 0010+. Talk on pirate activity, licensing stns w/ a minimum of requirements to available freqs. Asked for comments & letters to FCC. (COLLINS,WI) 7410, 3/12, 0001-0016*, SIO=343+. Annncr Joe w/ Slanesville, WV addr. Said does short pgms w/ commentaries. Talked abt article from New England Journal of Medicine (1989) on cholesterol & weight loss. Song by Men at Work. Talk abt FCC & how its job is to close down pirates. (D'ANGELO,PA)

Radio Espiritu (presumed): 7415.5, 3/4, 0103-0139*, SIO=333-. Apparently same pgm hrd 1/28/90 w/ Gregorian chants (lengthy) w/ some organ mx at QRT. No talk or ID, but presumed R. Espiritu. PSE QSL. (ZELLER,OH) 7415.4, 3/4, 0103-0144*, SIO=211. Gregorian chants. No IDs. Clobbered by WINN at 0119. PSE QSL. (PROVANCE,OH)

Radio Flatus (Flavus?): 7415, 2/25, 0220-0240+, SIO=432. Very low modulation w/ difficult copy. Mx ranged widely & incl thrash. WV addr. Sounded like they were doing more than just mx & IDs, so I hope they get their mod problems fixed. Almost wiped out by UTE QRM at 0239. On earlier w/ even LESS audio from 0108-0132. (SMITH,NY) 7414.8, 3/4, 2219-2239*, SIO=444. New stn, w/ whole show originally produced. Some rock, but mostly sketches & some in-studio mx w/ guitar & fiddle. Slightly undermod & tinny audio made for tough copy of sketches despite good sig. Slanesville addr. ID is Flavus, Flatus or similar. (ZELLER,OH) 7414.7, 3/4, 2231-2240*, SIO=555. Excellent sig - best since R. Free Willy, but some sort of mic probs. Ranged S7 to S9. Live skit of some sort. The Who w/ Boris the Spider. ID, WV drop. A live in-louse rendition of La Bamba & thank yous. Off w/ barking dogs. (ARTHUR,NY via ANARC BBS) 7414.8, 3/4, 2227-2239*, SIO=343. Lots of comedy skits but barely audible due to signal. Heard Dr. Herbert Hogshead with a medical cure for something. Ended with barking man. (PROVANCE,OH)

Radio Free Yesteryear: 7433, 2/24, 0510-0534*, SIO=544. Excellent sig. 50's & 60's mx w/ actual old time ads, i. e. beer ad by the Crew Cuts. Bob & Doug Great White North song. Very pro sounding. No QSL info hrd. PSE QSL. (SACHS,IL)

Radio Garbanzo: 7411.5, 2/11, 0232-0238, SIO=333. OM DJ w/ spot for Zeller's 1990 Pirate Radio Directory. Blue/rock mx ads. Synthesizer voice ID. Bad QSB & QRN. (ROSS,ONT)

Radio Mejico: 7415, 2/25, *1828-1840+, SIO=353. Came on w/ Slanesville addr & ID. Talk in EE & SS. Sounded MUCH more professional than my last reception of them. (SMITH,NY) 7414.0, 3/25, 0520-0526*. Tentative ID. SS lang, but not Latin American stn. (BAXTER,KS)

Radio Ony Gony: 7426a, 2/18, 2057-2134. Chesterfield Hour w/ Glenn Miller. ID peculiar, but this is what it sounded like. A couple of IDs during this period. (DUNN,OH)

Radio Outer Limits: 7413, 3/9, 0905-0945*, SIO=434. Guess you'll never know what you'll come across when laying floor tile at 3AM. REM set - 40's mx - 10,000 Maniacs set. Cut to talk on AIDS at 0933 & chiropractor call-in show. PSE QSL. (COLLINS,WI) 7413.6, 3/26, 0308+, SIO=222. Sig poor w/ QRM de CW stn on LSB. Altered-voice ID,

"machine/computer voice." Very hard to hear. (BAXTER,KS)

Radio USA: 7415.6, 2/10, *0155-0205+, SIO=222. S/on at 0155. Bad QRN. "Radio USA - 7th anniversary bcst w/ Mr. Blue Sky." Original R. USA interval sig. Talk & old pgm spots. Into QRN & RTTY QRM at 0205. (ROSS,ONT) 7416, 2/18, 2320-2356. 7th anniversary pgm. R. USA on the air. (DUNN,OH) 7416, 2/18, 2335-2355, SIO=121. Pirate swimsuit calendar, pirate trading cards. Mx by Dead Kennedys & Dickies. (COLLINS,WI) 7416.6, 3/19, 0114-0119, SIO=333. Talk about a pirate radio publication. Gave ACE address. Said, "Nobody rocks the world better than we do on shortwave". Gave promo for QSLs and ended with police siren. (PROVANCE,OH)

Rock A Billy Radio: 7415, 3/4, 0220-0226, SIO=232. Just hrd ID - no programming. Appeared to be just a test. PSE QSL. (D'ANGELO,PA) 7415, 3/4, 0223, SIO=313. OM giving ID twice. May have been same as KPLU. Some one played "Lucky Man" by ELP, and "Magic Carpet Ride" but not sure who. PSE QSL. (PROVANCE,OH)

Samurai Radio: 7450, 2/10, 2155-2206, SIO=333. OM DJ seemed to be in QSO w/ "Mr. Blue Sky" from R. USA, who was on another freq. Idle chat & banter. (ROSS,ONT) 7375, 2/10, 2240-2241*, SIO=333. ID & addr - Slanesville. Said to check 19 meters later, but nothing hrd. Abruptly off at 2241. (ROSS,ONT) 7375, 3/4, 1601-1610*, SIO=152. Open carrier until 1606. Anncd test & WV addr. Supposedly went to 15042, but not hrd here. Hrd abt test on ANARC SWL net. (SMITH,NY)

Secret Mountain Laboratory: 7405, 3/9, 0420-0457*, SIO=454. Ads for Bob's Beserko Lounge, Idi Amin hot tub, "We don't know what were doing here" phone co. ad. Nice mix of mx. (COLLINS,WI) 7306, 3/11, 0400-0410, SIO=222. Vy weak, but detected mx. Phone call from op confirmed ID. Anyone else hear this? (ARTHUR,NY via ANARC BBS)

Voice of Monotony: 7415, 3/17, 0005-0026*, SIO=111. Clash & Steve Miller mx. (COLLINS,WI) 7414.9, 3/18, 0014-0026*, SIO=353. Uncle Salty with strange program of comedy and rock mx. Mention of a refrigerator haunted by Hitler's ghost. (PROVANCE,OH) 7414.8, 3/19, 0120-0127, SIO=353. Same program as day before, but off in the middle of song. (PROVANCE,OH)

WENJ: 7416.1, 2/4, 0124-0241*, SIO=333. Oldies mx w/ DJ Jack Beane. IDed as J-Rock & WENJ. Phone # of 201-525-7920 & 800 # for NJ. Jingle IDs. (ROSS,ONT)

WGAR: 7415, 3/11, 1634-1710*, SIO=555. Lengthy Krishna religious reading. Claimed to have been on 2 hrs. Anncd QTH. Said would return next week w/ more (oh boy!). Phone rang & he was off abt 4 mins - had no problem pronouncing hundreds of names of deities, people & even other planets. (COLLINS,WI) 7415, date?, 1554-1618*, SIO=454. Very wierd religious show w/ readings of Krishna & Transcendentalism. At s/off, said would be back in an hour. Hrd again at 1643-1712*. PSE QSL. (TROMP,MI) 7415, 3/18, 1604, SIO=444. Anncd freq & mode, QTH, etc. Requested people listening contact him. Never came back on. (TROMP,MI)

WHBH: 7425, 2/18, 0110-0122. Hrd "Wabash Cannonball." Falsetto voiced ID almost undistinguishable. Narrow AM filter had to be used or wouldn't have hrd. Tentative ID. (SACHS,IL)

WINN (dedicated to Cindy): 7414.5v, 3/4, *0018-0535*, SIO=343+/322-. Foolish marathon xmsn. Rock by Stones, Who, ELP & many others. Occ repeats of OM chorus singing "The Life of a Pirate's for Me." "Shaving Cream" by Benny Bell. "Bad Boy Leroy Brown" hrd. Much of the mx rptd 3 or 4 times over multi-hour xmsn. Little talk hrd. Did dedicate songs to Cindy at 0253. Jammed on & off by different stns, some w/ AM/FM stn tapes, some in SSB, incl obscene remarks abt Cindy. Hard to figure out who is more irresponsible here - this stn or jammers. Various freq jumps, some pre-anncd. No addr. PSE QSL. (ZELLER,OH) (BAXTER,KS) (BISHOP,KS) (DUNN,OH) (SMITH,NY) (BREWER,NM) (MUSSELL via ANARC BBS) (PROVANCE,OH)

WLAR: 7425, 2/3, 2210-2236*, SIO=333. 2 young male DJs talking abt golf game. Read letters & talked on phone. Dr. Ruth spoof.

Wellsville addr. K-Mart ad. Phone # of 508-526-1146. Wx for Mass. area. (ROSS,ONT) 7414, 2/25, 1637-1704*, SIO=353. AC & top-40 mx. Annrc would cut-off songs & discuss listeners' letters. Anncd live show. Wellsville addr. Plugged ANARC SWL net. (SMITH,NY)

WLIF: 7415, 3/4, *0219-0250*, SIO=422. Started w/ IS. Informal OM annrc. Strange mx incl "Gilligan's Island/Stairway to Heaven." Several IS & s/ons from legit users of 41m incl Kol Israel & AIR India. Slanesville addr. Mike gain a bit low. Interesting show, but hampered by jammer on 41m. (SMITH,NY)

WLIS: 7415, 3/4, *1923-1938*, SIO=434. "We Love Interval Signals" w/ pgm containing talk & IS's. Poor, low audio made talk difficult to pick out. WV addr. (TROMP,MI) 7414.9, 3/4, 0223-0250, SIO=323. Played "Gilligan's Island/Stairway to Heaven" novelty tune. Lots of IS from international broadcasters. Slanesville address. (PROVANCE,OH)

WLS Relay (also WKAU & other stns relayed): 7414.2, 3/4, *0200-0202* (on & off to 0223), SIO=333. Sub-human idiot jamming WINN (Cindy stn) w/ taped recordings of various bcst stns. WLS bcst recorded in April. Tape of UNID stn in Fond du Lac, WI hrd. KCEM also hrd, listed in Aztec, NM. VFO jumps around to create bad QRM to WINN. (ZELLER,OH)

WMEX: 7416, 3/16, 0243-0308, SIO=555. I have a good tape of pgm if stn wants a copy. Beatles mx. OP was Capt. Kilohertz. Annmt of Radio Free Yesteryear. Great spoof of Ted Kennedy doing his version of "Wild Thing." PSE QSL. (BREWER,NM)

WTNU: 15039, 3/11, 1318-1347*, SIO=111. Rock mx. "Unlicensed, independent radio." Hrd Patti Smith song & addr I could not copy. (COLLINS,WI) 7414, 0100-0101 & 0101-0102, SIO=444. Tests, first AM, then USB. "Whiskey, Tango, November, Uniform, WTNU." (COLLINS,WI) 7413, 3/18, 0102, SIO=433. Xmtr test w/ count & off. (TROMP,MI) 7413 & 7415, 3/18, 0100-0103 & 0138-0139, SIO=353. First in AM with "Hello test", and "WTNU, the voice of the national underground testing". On later with testing. PSE QSL. (PROVANCE,OH)

Zodiac Radio: 7416, 2/25, 0325. S-9 sig w/ much QRM. Just listened a few minutes to ID & some radio drama. (RALEIGH,NV) 7416, 2/25, 0350-0536+. Frank's last bcst? We were logged into Portal at the time. Hrd mention of Portal, "Smuggler's Moon" comp. conference. Hrd Bill Krueger bcst (Adventurer Radio), UFO's, listener mail, then mellow mx. Was logged in at the time w/ 15 others or so. Logged whole conference on disk. Havana Moon sent log to Wellsville. Hrd stn was busted. Too bad, but this was a long bcst. (BREWER,NM) 7416, 2/25, 0405-0615, SIO=322. "War of the Worlds;" mentioned "The Smuggler's Moon." Spacey mx & UFO pgm. (VICKONOFF,CA via ANARC BBS)

UNIDENTIFIEDS

7370, 3/17, 2256-2301*, SIO=555. Strange sound effects w/ eerie mx. No annmts. Superb audio quality. (TROMP,MI) **7395.2,** 3/25. QSO. Hrd mention of Mr. Blue Sky. One station well hrd. (BAXTER,KS) **7400,** 3/17, 0453-0503*, SIO=232. New wave/no wave rock followed by OM talk. Barely audible. Not sure if IDed. PSE QSL. (PROVANCE,OH) **7412,** 3/18, 0250-0400+, SIO=342. SS talk & intriguing upbeat mx. (COLLINS,WI) **7413v,** 3/4, 0152-0217, SIO=232. Relay of Chicago stn WKAU AM & FM. Rock mx & ads for Ultra Bright. Chicago weather rpt. Mx by The Who "We Don't Get Fooled Again." DJ said he would play "Shaving Cream" 40 times. Started playing the song, w/ count down to 40. PSE QSL. (D'ANGELO,PA) **7413,** 3/4, 0259-0408*, SIO=252. Rock mx incl "Saturday in the Park" by Chicago & "Purple Haze" by Hendrix. Hrd "Life of a Pirate." Some problems noted & strong QRM. At 0400 hrd "Pinball Wizard." PSE QSL. (D'ANGELO,PA) **7413.8,** 3/10, 0310-0315, SIO=333. "Test your skills against household appliances." "Money" by Pink Floyd w/ speed of turntable variable. Lecture inaudible (talked on insecticides & mutated species), then off. No ID or addr. PSE QSL. (BAXTER,KS) (PROVANCE,OH) **7414,** 3/3, 0250, SIO=312. Relay of WQFM - Wisconsin, WMIL - WI. Hrd weather forecast & mention of other cities. Seemed to be 3 ops on at the same time. Many different breaks, hets & VFO sweeps. (COLLINS,WI) **7414,** 3/15, 0500-0532, SIO=222. Very weak. Beach Boys & 60's mx. (BREWER,NM) 7414.3, 3/17,

1715-1724, SIO=343. Played instrumental jazz; sounded like Herb Alpert circa 1982. No talk; off at end of songs. PSE QSL. (PROVANCE,OH) 7414.8, 3/4, 0209-0253*, SIO=423-. Seemed entertaining, but caught up in mess of pirate on 7414.5 & a jammer. Some rock, bulk of show was SWBC mx (marimba, etc) & various SWBC stn interval sigs. Slanesville addr hrd. Mx hrd well, but talk undermod & copy difficult in QRM de WINN & its jammers. 4 letter call I think. (ZELLER,OH) 7415, 3/4, 0135-0230. At least 2 & possibly 3 xmtrs jamming up freq. Various relays. One definite ID of Rockabilly Radio. (SMITH,NY) 0141-0348, SIO=444. REM tunes. Tom Petty "Jammin Me" & "Runaway Trains" & Who "My Generation," "Who Are You," & "Won't Be Fooled Again." (BREWER,NM) 7415, 3/5, 0210, SIO=252. Musical tones; no talk. Off abruptly. Sounded like a hearing test. (PROVANCE,OH) 7415, 3/10, 0213-0216. Hrd "Money" & environmental statement abt insecticides. Off abruptly at 0216. Same stn as 7413.8 above? (DUNN,OH) 7415, 3/19, 0312-0330*. Rock mx; Steppenwolf "Monster;" clobbered by CW for a few minutes. Hrd a couple of IDs I couldn't copy, but think it was "Voice of" Hrd cuts from Woodstock album incl Country Joe "Fish Cheer" & "Feel Like I'm Fixing to Die." PSE QSL. (ARRITT,KS) 7415.8, 3/13, 0130-0230, SIO=333. Jammer on 7414.7. Pink Floyd. OM anncr w/ mention of "Revolutionary..." Grace Slick/Jeff Airplane album side. Low voice audio. (BREWER,NM) 7417, 3/10, 0304-0317, SIO=333. Interesting - take off of the Coneheads "performing experiments on animals in space." (skit) The Pink Floyd "Mongy" then skit abt "dead rising up." No ID. PSE QSL. (BREWER,NM) 7482, 3/18, 2236+, SIO=333. "Pop 40" mx w/ no annmts. Xmtr off & on many times. Possibly WBRI? (TROMP,MI) 7527m, 3/19, *0122, SIO=333. Unannounced s/on w/out ID, w/ opening bars of a soft rock piece w/ women vocalists & guitars. Sig on/off until 0125, when off completely. PSE QSL. (KARCHESKI, MA)

ELSEWHERE IN THE WORLD

Radio Orang-utang: 6206, 2/11, 0811-0834, SIO=222. Up from QSB @ 0811. OM DJ tx. ID as "Radio Orang-utang." Gave addr phonetically as "Box 114, Sheerenberg, Holland." Mix of talk & mx in QSB. Several IDs hrd. Talk seemed clearer than mx cuts. (ROSS,ONT)
Radio Stella: 6320, 3/11, 0535-0610, SIO=242. Jock Wilson playing rock tunes & mx requests. (D'ANGELO,PA)
Rainbow Radio: 6240, 3/11, 0542-0609, SIO=151-. Tape loop w/ ID & addr repeated in several languages. Said 25 watts. QSL's for 2 IRCs. Gave addr as Rainbow Radio, Box 65027, 3002 DA Rotterdam, Netherlands. Spelled Rotterdam phonetically. I missed anncr's name. (D'ANGELO,PA)
Voice of the Netherlands: 15046, 3/9, 2006-2145*, SIO=252. I lucked onto this one. Euro & NAM top-40 mx w/ heavily accented OM anncr. Apparently switched xmtr sites every 20 min or so, due to them jamming themselves for a few seconds occ. Annncd 15045 repeatedly but one xmtr on abt 15046.5, another abt 15046.9. Said they would be back Sunday 8AM. (SMITH,NY) 15045, 3/11, 0738-0833+, SIO=353. On as anncd & on anncd freq. No sign of xmtr switching. Excellent 19m sig, esp for the time. Phone # 05-286-1445 & addr of Postbus 669 - 79008AR - Heegeveen, Netherlands. Asked for 2 IRCs or US \$1. Promised studio & xmtr photo along w/ QSL. Great reception. (SMITH,NY) 15045, 3/11, 0817-0831, SIO=131. Songs w/ male anncr "You're listening to the Voice of the Netherlands." Gave addr & phone #, but uncopyable. (LANDAU,NJ)

PSE QSL ADDRESSES

R. Arritt, 3129 Tomahawk Drive, Lawrence, KS 66049
 C. Collins, 1977 S. 74th Street, West Allis, WI 53219.
 R. D'Angelo, 2216 Burkey Drive, Wyomissing, PA 19610.
 W. Karcheski, Jr., 23 Gail Drive, Holden, MA 01520-1710.
 T. Provance, 2530 Oakwood Ave, Zanesville, OH. 43701

Late word from Harry Helms that he has not received sufficient input to have a column for this issue. However, Harry reports one interesting logging of KKN50 on 6926 at 0432 on 3/4/90, when he heard the usual marker signal, but in tone modulated CW -- just like the modulated CW heard on numbers stations. Very interesting Harry!! Now, my plea.... PLEASE send your unusual utility, and mystery signal reports to Harry. Let's get him off the beach and back to the typewriter for the May issue!!

Thanks to everyone for this great Dialog column. Remember, I need your material by the 25th, so mail at least by the 20th so I'll get your letter in time.

Sweep of shortwave pirates nets busts in California, West Virginia

Enforcement actions against pirate broadcasters have netted the FCC two more shortwave pirates. In an unusual twist, a licensed AM radio broadcaster-turned-pirate has been fined \$10,000. Eight pirates from the agency's "Ten Most Wanted" list continue to elude detection.

• **Zodiac Radio shortwave, Anaheim, California**--CBER-turned-pirate broadcaster James J. Keul III, 36, signed on Zodiac Radio at 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 24. He signed off at 10:30 p.m., after meeting FCC Los Angeles field office engineer Jim Zoulek and two other FCC engineers who homed in on Zodiac Radio's 7416 kHz signal. Known on CB as "Zodiac" and on his pirate station as "Frank Marauder," Keul was issued a \$1,000 fine--roughly \$100 per watt for his 11-watt signal from a Heathkit DX-60. Zoulek said Keul "freely gave" the FCC his transmitter, which the engineers took with them when they left. He said Keul told them he spent \$20 when he bought the transmitter.

• **Experimental Propagation Radio (EPR) shortwave, Beach Bottom, West Virginia**--Four FCC engineers holed up at a motel in Wheeling, West Virginia arose at midnight Jan. 30 in hopes that EPR would follow its pattern and conduct a broadcast in the early morning hours. They were not disappointed. EPR signed on at 1:50 a.m. It signed off shortly after 2:45 a.m. when the four engineers entered Mark R. Leavitt's house. When they left, they took along a Viking Valiant transmitter EPR used to broadcast with 150 watts on 3820 kHz. Leavitt, 23, was fined \$1,000.

• **WIMG-AM, Trenton, New Jersey**--Many pirates yearn for a broadcasting license. The WIMG case involves a licensee, Crusade Broadcasting, that *became a pirate* when its operating authority expired and it kept broadcasting! In letters dated Sept. 14 and Nov. 9, 1989, the FCC told Crusade its operating authority for WIMG, 1300 kHz, Trenton, New Jersey, had expired. But Crusade continued to operate the station through Feb. 5, 1990, according to the FCC. Crusade was issued a \$10,000 fine for operating WIMG without a valid station license.

Since the first of the year, the FCC has closed several other pirate stations:

- **WKND-AM, Pittsburgh, Feb. 1.** (See March ACE.)
- **Secret Society Radio shortwave, Floyd, Virginia, Feb. 17.** (See March ACE.)
- **WHBH shortwave, Richmond, Virginia, Feb. 18.** (See March ACE.)

The FCC's "Ten Most Wanted" list of pirates, issued before Secret Society Radio and Zodiac Radio had been busted, is:

1. Voice of Tomorrow
2. Radio Clandestine
3. The Superstation
4. KNBS "Cannabis 41"
5. WENJ "New Jersey's best rock"
6. WWEO "We echo others"
7. WJDI "The Night Ranger"
8. Hope Radio 16
9. Zodiac Radio
10. Secret Society Radio

Poised to move into the top 10: Free Radio One.

Several years ago, the FCC issued a press release that revealed areas where radio bearing fixes indicated pirate broadcasters were located. Pirate activity subsided for awhile thereafter.

On at least one occasion, FCC engineers have put pirate broadcasters on notice with even more specific references. Speaking of FM pirates in New York, FCC engineer Judah Mansbach was quoted in the Dec. 17, 1989 *Daily News Magazine* as saying: "You want to know where 9FM is? In a two-story building on 149th Place off Northern Boulevard in Flushing. You want to know where WFUN is? In Midwood, on 14th St., between Avenue O and Avenue P." --Don Bishop

Questions and answers

I heard the FCC has raised to \$5,000 the fine it will assess the first time they catch a pirate broadcaster. Is that right?

The FCC has raised the fine for the first offense of transmitting without authorization or without a license, but only by a small increment. In 1989, the initial fine was \$750; in 1990 it has been raised to \$1,000. The initial fine for unlicensed use of a public safety frequency was raised from \$1,000 to \$1,250.

Although the FCC publicizes the fine it assesses for a rule violation, it does not publicize any subsequent reduction of the fine. Mitigating factors the agency has taken into account in reducing fines for pirate broadcasting have included financial hardship; the degree of cooperation the operator exhibited during the station inspection; and the surrender of equipment.

For example, John Gawron Jr., the 15-year-old operator of shortwave pirate station CBOR, Fairfield, CT, was assessed a \$750 fine last year. He said the FCC reduced his fine to \$100 when he explained he had little money and his parents were requiring him to pay the fine out of his own pocket. Thomas Mark Cason, a heating and air conditioning specialist who operated FM pirate WKIL in Erlanger, Kentucky, was assessed a \$750 fine last September. He had cooperated during the FCC inspection of his station and surrendered his transmitter. When he requested leniency in response to the FCC Notice of Apparent Liability, the commission reduced his fine to \$250. The FCC has not been known to reduce a fine unless the violator asks it to when he responds to the Notice of Apparent Liability.

There has been some indication from FCC headquarters that the agency may discontinue accepting the surrender of amateur-type shortwave transmitters in mitigation of a fine. But the FCC considers it advantageous to encourage the surrender of "unlawful" transmitters, such as those built to broadcast on the FM band, to prevent them from being sold or given away to someone who will put them back on the air.

Oh, yes, and the FCC will accept monthly installments.

--Don Bishop

Correction

Conrad Clark Dalton is the name of the person the FCC found operating Secret Society Radio shortwave, Floyd, Virginia. His name was incorrectly reported in a March *ACE* news story. ~~~

WKND: Born Oct. 31, 1988; died Feb. 1, 1990--R.I.P.

By Don Bishop

P.O. Box 4075

Overland Park, KS 66204-0075

Taps on the window. Tap, tap, tap. "Who is it?" asked Gary Mathews. "The FCC," a voice responded. "I'd like to come in and look at your transmitter."

With that, the 15-month ride of Pittsburgh's medium wave and shortwave pirate station, WKND, came to an end. Born in the image of Radio Newyork International (RNI), WKND was the creation of Gary Mathews, an electronics technician in Greentree, a Pittsburgh suburb. Mathews, a man in his 20s, was issued a \$1,000 fine.

"I had an interest going back 10 years, not necessarily in pirate radio, but in having a broadcast station," Mathews, known on the air as Radio Animal, said. "I've been into electronics and radio and TV repair."

RNI Inspiration

When RNI came on the air in late 1987, its unlicensed broadcasts emanated from a ship anchored off Long Island in international waters. "I heard the station," Mathews said, "and it solidified my ideas as to what I would do and what frequencies I would operate on. In the summer of 1988 I put WKND together."

Mathews knew RNI had been busted by the FCC, so he fashioned his station to resemble the erstwhile pirate by using former RNI frequencies: 1620 kHz and 6240 kHz. "I debuted on Halloween, 1988." Halloween is a popular broadcast day for pirate stations, most of whose schedules are irregular. Something about the bizarre nature of the holiday and the bizarre nature of pirate broadcasting draws the two together. Unaware of most other pirate activity at the time, though, Mathews chose the day "more or less because it is an unusual holiday."

Mathews later read a little about pirate broadcasting but did not know about mail drops that forward mail between stations and their listeners, and about "insider" publications devoted in whole or in part to pirate broadcasting. "I had read *Popular Communications* magazine," he said. "Then later I got more into it after I made more broadcasts and talked with more people about it."

Mail drop service

After WKND had been active for awhile, Mathews learned that some DXers were trying to reach him for reception report verifications. He overheard people talking about it on an amateur radio network. Someone placed Andrew Yoder in touch with Mathews. "Andy said he had listener reports for me. So he sent them. Later he said he could be my mail drop. He used my address to forward reports to me and I sent QSLs to him to be sent back to the listeners." Mathews said he has some QSLs left and he is behind on filling verification requests. But now that he is off the air, he said, "I have more time to catch up on QSLs."

Yoder's column, "DX Clipboard," appears in *The ACE*. He publishes *Pirate Pages* and has written a book about pirate radio.



Mathews sits in the WKND studio where, as 'Radio Animal,' his last broadcast ended with a visit from FCC electronics engineers. The former pirate broadcaster hopes to win a job with a commercial broadcast station.

Listeners seeking QSLs can direct requests to: Gary Mathews, WKND, in care of Boxholder, P.O. Box 628, Slanesville, WV 25444.

Mathews said pirate broadcasting is becoming a big thing and is coming out into the open. He said there are several legitimate radio formats called "Pirate Radio" and one on the MTV cable TV channel called "Pirate TV." "Pirate TV" is based on RNI's broadcast that they did over cable station," Mathews said. "MTV had the DJs from RNI on TV at the time. They took that format and brought it back with alternative videos."

Studio and transmitters

Mathews' studio started small and grew. "I started with a tape recorder," he said. "All I could do was record program segments in sequences by starting and stopping the tape. Then I bought a mixer, turntables, microphones, a cassette player and an equalizer. That gave me the ability to broadcast live." Mathews said he built a second studio for recording.

He built his own 25-watt 1620 kHz transmitter, including the oscillator, exciter and amplifier. The medium wave transmitter fed a 250-foot wire antenna.

The WKND 6240 kHz transmitter originated as a Heathkit HX-11 CW (Morse code) unit Mathews bought at an electronics flea market. He converted it to AM for broadcasting. The shortwave transmitter fed a halfwave dipole wire antenna. Listeners as far away as Kansas and Ontario picked up the broadcasts.

Until Feb. 1, that is. "I was operating on 1620 kHz after midnight, local time, EST, just playing

music and making comments. The program was not intended to be widely heard. It was fun for me to do for awhile to give me broadcast experience. Then I would leave the air," Mathews said.

Knock, knock

But 45 minutes into the program, someone knocked on the basement window to the studio in Mathews' home. "I didn't know what to make of it. I thought maybe it was a neighbor, coming to say I was causing trouble with his TV or radio or making noise. He said, 'This is the FCC. We want to come in and look at your transmitter.'" Mathews opened the door for John Rahtes, who had been tracking the signal for 10 minutes. Rahtes showed his identification and Mathews showed him the transmitter.

WEEKEND RADIO:

WKND

BECAUSE...

THERE ONCE WAS A
FRIENDLY DOG WHO
LIKED TO TALK WITH
EVERYONE HE COULD.

TROUBLE WAS, HIS
VOICE COULD ONLY
CARRY SO FAR.

THEN THIS DOG
FOUND RADIO...



"I was surprised," Mathews said, "and it was a bit frightening. I knew this was it, because if you're a pirate, the FCC will get you one day most likely." After Rahtes looked things over and took power and frequency measurements on the transmitter, he gave Mathews and statement to read over the air. He asked Mathews to turn off the transmitter. Rahtes took pictures of the station equipment. Rahtes telephoned another FCC engineer who had been helping to trace WKND's signal and gave him directions. The second engineer arrived about 15 minutes later.

Mathews said his pirate station is off the air permanently. He would like to become involved in commercial broadcasting, especially in announcing and commercial production, which he considers his strengths.

FCC trails the Radio Animal

"We were in the area on another matter," said FCC electronics engineer John Rahtes, who works in the agency's Philadelphia office. "I had been on my way from the Philadelphia office to Pittsburgh when I was notified the office had been contacted by Washington. Headquarters had worked out a pattern of operation for WKND that indicated it might be on the air Wednesday night," he said.

Rahtes was driving a station wagon instead of one of the agency's mobile automatic direction-finding (MADF) vehicles. "I said I didn't have proper equipment to take care of the case.

Headquarters contacted the Buffalo, New York, office; Buffalo sent two MADF cars on its own initiative. The office only was required to send one car. I contacted my office, since I was halfway to Pittsburgh, and asked one of my technicians to drive a proper vehicle to meet me halfway. Then I proceeded to Pittsburgh with a fully equipped vehicle."

The FCC's network of long-range direction-finding stations already had worked out a "fix" on WKND's location, based on previous broadcasts.

"Depending on how many fixes they perform, the network can define the source of a broadcast within 10 miles or so," Rahtes said. "We deployed three vehicles around the fix area. Each engineer covered a third of the area, taking positions approximately seven miles from center of the fix area."

Come 'on,' you're surrounded

Rahtes said each engineer picked a high location as his starting point. "I suppose most pirates also are situated on high ground," he said. "It happens that the high ground I was on is where Mathews' house is. I just went up the road and, through a few maneuvers, determined the transmitter location." Rahtes said the trace took 10 minutes.

The house was dark, except for one window, so Rahtes tapped on the window that was lit. "I didn't want to waken the whole house. Judging by his voice, I assumed the operator was not the owner of the house, but perhaps the owner's son. I didn't want to disturb the whole house so he could deal with us directly."

Rahtes said Mathews waved, apparently thinking it was one of his friends tapping on the window. "He asked me who I was and I said 'FCC.' I suppose he thought it was one of his friends playing a joke. He opened the window and found it was the FCC. He was quite surprised and lamented that he felt he shouldn't have broadcast that night because he had a bad feeling about coming on that night."

In 20 years with the FCC, Rahtes has traced four pirate broadcast stations. WKND was by far the easiest. "Usually we have to go out five or six times, at least. In other cases when it is expected that a pirate will broadcast on a given evening, a field office will schedule work nearby. An engineer will perform the work in that area, then check into a motel near the "fix" area defined by the long-range direction-finding network. "We have the watch officer telephone to wake us if station comes on."

With WKND, the fact that headquarters anticipated the broadcast motivated the use of three MADF vehicles, a highly unusual tactic, and the engineers stayed out "on sort of a watch situation," Rahtes said. "I didn't think he would come on--but he did."

Rahtes said pirate broadcasting is "a serious problem because it does violate international law and does go through airwaves for hundreds of miles. It is something the FCC has to prevent. We take whatever action is necessary to stop it when it occurs." He said all the pirates his office has been assigned to put off the air have been closed down, "but we don't get pirates that often. Usually one or two a year at most."

The field engineer said the agency is anticipating the deployment of remote direction-finding equipment in the future. The new equipment can be placed in the vicinity of the pirate station to save the FCC the use of so much manpower. "Since the pirates don't come on frequently, we could dial up the equipment when a broadcast occurs, get an automatic direction-finding bearing, and then move it to get another fix next time that narrows down the location."

your center for QSL information and comment

John T. Arthur, proprietor
RD #1, Box 15A
Belfast, NY 14711

...with a little help from my friends and Staff Reporters Mark Pierce and Bud Wooten. VR is electronically transmitted to A*C*E Hdq on or before the 24th of each month. Please send your input and comments to the above address or leave them in the [P]ersonal Mail section of the ANARC TBBS prior to the 18th. Your active participation in the form of reports, suggestions or constructive criticism is solicited.

We had hoped to bring you another of Hunton Peck's unique April columns, but he apparently fell asleep on the Black Sand Beach for about six hours one hot, sunny day and is unable to type. We'll look forward to hearing from him again when he gets out of the burn ward.

"Most people sell their souls, and live with a good conscience on the proceeds."
--Logan Pearsall Smith (Other People)

What's News:
the media report

Overpowering signals are not the exclusive property of the Christian Science Monitor shortwave stations! Residents of Echo Park and Silver Lake (near Santa Monica, CA) have to put up with 24 hour-per-day rap coming through their telephones, VCRs, chain-link fences and even their toilets from 50,000 watt AM broadcaster KDAY. The station has invested more than \$10,000 responding to area residents complaints by installing filters on home-electronics devices, but the rap crap goes on. Incidentally, the FCC says that KDAY is in full compliance with all regulations. [Sound Choice, spring 1990, via Mark Pierce]

If you're into radio promotional items and airchecks, this club is possibly just what you've been looking for. The Promotions and Aircheck Collectors Club publishes a newsletter listing collectors and traders of radio and TV station stickers, T-shirts, surveys, program guides, and such. A sample newsletter is available for US\$1.25 (US\$1.50 in Canada or Mexico) from TP&ACC, Mark Strickert, 3852 North Oconto, Chicago, IL 60634. [via Mark Pierce]

Now even DAK is getting into PLL portable SW radios. A recent flyer lists a four band PLL-tuned, digital-readout portable radio for only \$49.90 (+\$4 p+h), covering 530-1630, 3200-7300, 9500-21750, plus FM. Exact dimensions and weight were not mentioned, nor were sensitivity or selectivity figures, and the only method of tuning are "up" and "down" buttons (no direct access), but it does feature a programmable alarm/auto-on and a total of 20 memories (5 per band). If you're desperate for a small, inexpensive receiver, you might want to try one of these guys. Contact: DAK Industries, 8200 Remmet Ave, Canoga Park, CA 91304. [via George Zeller]

Our friend Fred Osterman of Universal SW Radio sez that a new edition of the DXer's Directory is planned for later this year. This massive undertaking lists radio hobbyists around the world with interests, addresses and, in some cases, phone numbers so you can find other listeners in your area at a glance. If you're not yet listed, send particulars to Fred as soon as possible; complete info includes: name and address, phone # (if desired), main interests (include Pirates!), and clubs you belong to (don't forget ACE!) - and send a photo of you and your shack if you'd like to see that in print, too. Do it soon, since the new edition will be released about September. As always, the cost will be US\$4.95 (+\$1 for shipping), and you may want to send your order at the same time. Contact: Fred Osterman, Universal SW, 1280 Aida Drive, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068. [direct]

We publish this item almost without comment:
"A man received second- and third-degree burns on his upper body when he apparently attempted to steal copper wiring from a 46KV powerline

near Cartersville, GA. A Georgia Power Co. official said wire thefts have increased since the price of precious metals began to rise." In a similar case, three young men are awaiting trial in SE Ohio for attempted wire theft and manslaughter. Seems they talked a fourth party into climbing the pole, and he was electrocuted. The three left the scene and were apprehended later. [via Bud Wooten and A J Michaels] (there is a lesson to be learned here, too - there are safer ways to get your antenna wire! jta)

Still looking for cheap music? Here are a couple of sources you just might be able to make use of: Satellite Sounds, PO Box 164, Folcroft, PA 19032, specializing in re-mastered oldies and comedy, and Roger C. Ott, PO Box 2095, Oak Lawn, IL 60455, specializing in cut-outs and oldies. Send 'em a dollar and ask for their catalogs - there's some good stuff to be had and prices aren't bad, considering. [direct]

The time has run out for the 1990 Pirate Poll. If you haven't voted by now, you'll have to wait until next year to participate. The results will be tabulated and presented in next month's VR, but let me warn you - there will be some surprises this year! Stay tuned.

There was a somewhat disappointing response to the question of an A*C*E Awards Program, but I'll keep the lines open for now. If there is any interest, kindly write, phone or leave me a BBS message to let me know so we can get the ball rolling. I have priced certificates and located someone to handle the review and issuing duties; all we need is your expression of interest. Speak out!

support your club...say you read it in The ACE

When the Feds arrive, a review

Several years ago I presented an article called "After The Knock", suggesting what to do and not do when the FCC visits you. From the recent news, it seems like it's time for an update and repeat.

To wit: (1) the FCC visited Secret Society Radio (who was off air) and conned him into signing a statement agreeing to forfeit his radio equipment. They then cleaned him out - of three receivers! (2) the Feds visited Zodiac Radio one week later (after he had signed off) told him "it will go easier on you if you cooperate", so he did and they confiscated his transmitter and fined him \$1,000. Now I ask you, in what way did it "go easier" on him to cooperate?

In both cases the Feds had was a strong suspicion, but no PROOF. They also had no authority to enter private property, since they are not law enforcement, so they relied on 'maximum b.s.' to gain entry and seize equipment. Make no doubt about it, the Operators in both cases made BIG mistakes: they believed what these Public Servants said and let them get away with their lies.

So what do you do to prevent this sort of thing? The obvious answer is to be informed. The FCC is NOT law enforcement. The head of the Field Operations Bureau, Richard M. Smith, has stated in a published interview (Business/Radio, August 1986) that, "The FCC is not law enforcement ... enforcement comes through the Department of Justice when necessary." Therefore, you do not have to let the FCC agents into your home or even speak to them. You are free to order them off your property if you wish to.

Even if you possess an amateur radio license, they cannot simply appear at your door and demand to inspect your station. The Rules state that they may request to inspect during NORMAL business hours. If they show up at three a.m. you are within your Rights to run them off the property. (If you are a listening hobbyist, the FCC has NO right to demand to inspect your shack - they do not regulate the listening end of the hobby.) Thus, it follows that having a ham license can be a distinct liability to a Free Radio Operator.

Do not be thrown off by the above statement. A ham license gives you justification for owning transmitters, yes? Well, possibly. As an American, you are free to possess or even OWN any piece of equipment

you want. (Think about it: you don't need a drivers license to own or possess an automobile do you? And far more people die as a result of traffic accidents than as a result of pirate broadcasting!) The only advantage to having an amateur license is that you can legally OPERATE a transmitter, even if only within certain frequency confines and other limitations.

So what can you do to avoid the FCC's summary "justice"? First, don't be too laid back. Lock your door(s) when you Operate and turn the dog(s) loose in the yard. Don't operate from a position where you can be observed from outside but do use a spot where YOU can see what's happening, like an upstairs room with plenty of windows. And don't use a broadcast as a lame excuse for getting totally drunk or otherwise wiped out. You may need your sensibilities at short notice.

Second, after the broadcast, disassemble the station. Remove the xtal from the transmitter, unplug the AC power, audio feed and antenna. Move the xmtr to an innocuous location, like a closet or shelf. You might even want to sprinkle some fresh dust on it to make it look as though it hasn't been moved in years. Attach the antenna to something else - a convenient receiver, for instance. In short, make it look as though nothing out of the ordinary has ever happened in the room.

Third, to swipe a page from Free Radio Ones' report "What To Do When The FCC Calls", say as little as possible; remember that in America the burden of proof is on the accuser, in this case the FCC agents. If they show up without a US Marshall and a warrant, you do not have to speak to them, let alone let them into your home. Do NOT be overly friendly and offer them coffee; they're getting paid more money than either of us - they can buy their own coffee. If they ask your name, dodge the question: "who wants to know?" Ask to see their ID, and TAKE NOTES. Remember, they are only Public Servants, not law enforcement. You are not required to present identification to just any Joe, after all. To quote from Dr. David Richardson's plagiarized report, the Three Rules of dealing with the Feds are: (1) keep your mouth shut, (2) don't say anything, and (3) shut up. To which we add, DO NOT lie but don't tell them anything! Everything you say could be incriminating and can be used against you at a later time.

Fourth, if they start threatening legal action remember that they still have to PROVE your guilt, and you do not have to help them do it. Furthermore, if they have not arrived with a Marshall, you still have the upper hand. You can order them off the property and if they fail to leave you can call your local Police and have them removed. (Believe it - it has happened at least once that I know of!) Once they are gone you should take advantage of the lull to remove any and all traces of anything less-than-totally-legal and stash it someplace safe, like a friend's basement. That way, even if they do come back with a warrant and a Marshall, there will be nothing for them to see, thus no case, and you'll have a good basis for a harrassment suit.

Fifth, if they continue to harrass you over nothing, you can file a lawsuit against them under Title 42 of the US Code for infringing on your Civil Rights and violating Due Process of Law. Title 42 is a real Bear to a Public Servant. It does not permit them to make use of the legal resources of the government; the agent(s) named in the suit (you took notes, remember?) have to pay his/her own attorney and legal fees out of their own pocket(s), and they are not cheap. In general, the threat of financial incumbrance alone should make them think twice about continuing their actions.

Finally, bear in mind that if they have already obtained a warrant and arrive with a US Marshall, there isn't a lot you can do except go to court later to regain possession of your equipment. In this case you should contact a good communications lawyer and let him handle things. It's not the end of the world, however; the Feds have never arrested a pirate Operator and taken him away in handcuffs, and equipment can be replaced just as cheaply over a period of time.

It appears that the FCC's mission, through a gross misinterpretation of the Broadcasting Act of 1934, is to keep the airwaves pristine for Big Money interests, and they do not like the idea of private citizens building radio stations for less than \$1,000. The official

line is that the First Amendment Right to Free Speech does not apply to radio broadcasting, even though the founding fathers clearly intended for us to be free to use whatever media was available. That they did not anticipate electronic media does not exclude it from Constitutional coverage.

Best advice overall is: say nothing and do not sign away your Rights.

[The preceding is not intended to advocate or condone anything, but rather is presented as a thought provoking commentary. Neither The ACE nor this columnist advocates or condones any illegal activity.]

Off the Wall....
the rumor center

Another Europirate is testing to NAM, and they've been heard on this side of the Pond, too. Quality Radio began broadcasting on occasional Sundays on 9985 kHz at 09-11 and 19-21 UCT. The latter xmsn will probably be dropped due to lack of response. They also conduct tests in the range of 15010 - 15060 Sundays, most likely 11-13 or 17-19 UTC with the probably frequencies 15055 and 15058. Their mailing address is: Quality, PO Box 85 455, NL-2508 CD Den Haag, Holland. Thanks to ACE member Eric Suter, who adds that despite the address they do not actually broadcast from Holland...

As mentioned in the March ACE, the former Operator of Secret Society Radio is asking for donations of cash (to pay the \$1,000 fine) and equipment (to replace the three receivers stolen by the FCC). If you can assist with either - or just wish to send a letter of support - contact Conrad Clark Dalton, Rte 1 Box 75, Indian Valley, VA 24105... A line from the Clownmaster, of RCCI, who was appalled by a recent report in ACE DiaLogs suggesting that RCCI had put on a comedy piece containing "heavy profanity". CM sez RCCI programming does not contain any profanity what-so-ever and like 7Up, "never had it and never will". (In fact, that unID report was of Hope Radio, who was playing an Eddie Murphy LP instead of their usual Bill Cosby fare)... For those who did not manage to catch the entire address off the air, KPLU is using: PO Box 123082, Ft Worth, TX 76121...

And WRNR, after months of announcing a NYState address, is using the Slanesville Box and apparently verifying, too... More maildrop news: the Slanesville address will be changing one last time in the near future. You might want to make a note of the new Box and start using it immediately: Box 109, Blue Ridge Summit, PA 17294. This address will handle all the stations currently announcing the Box 628 address, as well as The PiPa...

Experimental Propagation Radio reportedly used 3820 kHz every night for about three months, but the FCC reports that they've been shut down. And that should make the hams happier... Here's another high frequency pirate for Harry Helms to try for: RG8U runs on (or around) 27.900 MHz, using either USB or FM. Of course, I note that Harry never bothered to send a report to Voice of Bob after hearing them on 26.000, although he did report the reception to the ACE DiaLogs with a PSE QSL attached... ADD another new station to Box 452: Voice of Kentucky Fried Rodents is another new one that should be on the air soon. THAT should make somebody's hair stand on end!...

Mouthterpiece Theater
(formerly: Soapbox)
ACE members speak out:

Here's a letter from a new ACE member with a novel approach to the problem of FCC enforcement from Miss Maryanne Kehoe, in Atlanta:

"I just got the March A*C*E and the recent busts by the FCC have me wondering. Since this is Our government in action, I don't particularly like (to see) my tax dollars being used to bust people who are no harm to society. Although November elections are quite far away, I intend to contact my elected representatives and as a concerned and informed SWL, ask them how they stand on the issue of FCC harrasment. (Think about it ACE'ers, they represent US.) I intend to let them know that MY vote will depend on many things, one of

which is their position on what I consider a very important issue. "Let's vote aware and informed this November! Think about it ACE'ers; who is more 'dangerous' - your friendly neighborhood pirate broadcaster, or the drunk driver down the street?"

A very good point, Maryanne, and a suggestion that even I hadn't thought of. Since the FCC was created by Congress and is not elected by the voters, the proper place to apply pressure is on Our elected representatives; when the heat gets too hot, Congress will lean on the FCC to back off or, perhaps, change the Broadcasting Act of 1934. It has become quite obvious that individual citizens will never get the FCC to pay any attention by writing to them directly. On the other hand, the people who depend on Your votes to maintain their lifestyle and benefits HAVE to pay attention or look for another job where they might actually have to DO something. Good idea. And good luck. Be sure to let VR know the results! jta

What do YOU think? VR is a forum for Your opinion and comment. Kindly organize Your thoughts, be concise and expect comment directed at Yours. I may edit to fit space available but will try not to alter Your intended meaning.

+++ under the door +++

QSL report for: April 1990

Ontario's Bob Ross scored a full data form letter from Hope Radio Int'l - 7414 signed by Jamie in five weeks, a full data yellow card (#178) and sticker from Radio USA - 7375.6 signed by Mr Blue Sky in six weeks, a full data postcard from Radio Stella Int'l - 6319.5 signed by Cyder in two weeks, a full data blue & white card from Samurai Radio - 7375 signed by Eddie Currents in one month, and a full data photographic card and personal letter from Voice of Laryngitis - 7415 signed by Stan Huxley in about six weeks.

Georgia's Miss Maryanne Kehoe bagged a letter from PRN for Radio Morania signed by R F Burns, who said "7415 is too hot, look for us on higher frequencies in the future".

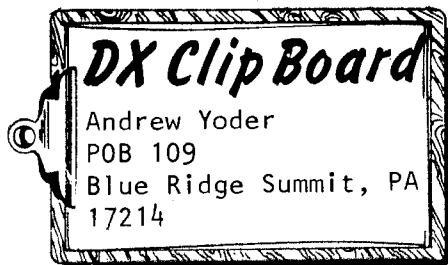
Ohio's George Zeller posted a full data green card-sized sheet (#47) from Pirate Radio UK via ECPR signed by N Tesla in 51 days via Baltimore drop, a full data blue sheet from PRN/Radio Clandestine signed by R F Burns in 220 days, and a full data hand-typed index card from WLAR in 25 days via Wellsville saying that their supply of 'stylish' cards was exhausted.

Mississippi's Reed Hubbard was ecstatic to receive a full data cannabis fiber card (#84) from KNBS signed by Phil Muzik with a pennant in 14 days.

Ye Olde Editore hung up a full data orange card (#1) from Tube Radio - 7411 signed by Ray Cathode in 16 days with a note from Zippo Hiplock, and a plain white full data card from WLAR - 7415 rcv'd in 62 days.

Best of DX and 73...

[Ed notes: The opinions expressed in this column are those of the author. The ACE does not condone or promote the illegal use of radio. All information presented is for educational purposes.]



Wow, I've got so much info for this month, but really no nice big articles to dump it into. What does this mean? I dunno, but I thot I'd say it anyway. According to info from Bob German, Don Bishop and Ron Peebles, the FCC uses a loop-hole in the rules so commercial stns can use the 7350-7550 kHz range. If no one complains about interference, they can stay. So, why doesn't this loophole apply to pirates? Well, I think we all know the answer to that one.

The other nite, I dreamed I got to sit in on a R.Garbanzo recording session. So, now I'm listening to a tape of'em (available via DVS at the Wellsville, NY add). When is RG gonna be back? If ya haven't noticed, the March ACE was just GREAT--40 pages, packed with info. Be sure to thank Kirk for the great job and keep contributing!

Yes, my book Pirate Radio Stations: Tuning in Underground Broadcasts is finally out on TAB. If ya haven't ordered a copy from anyone else, ya can still get it direct. The cost is \$12.50 in paperback or \$20 in hardcover (postage paid). If yer interested, make all checks payable to me. I'm pretty happy with the way it looks, but I wish it was more up-to-date. Maybe they'll let me do a revision in the next year or so.

I had a great time meeting a few of ya at the SWL Winterfest last month. Now that its warming up, it's time for everyone to start getting together and having DXsessions and DXpeditions. If ya get a chance, do it!

The busts sure havent slowed the scene down much, have they? The FCC had better watch out, the more they "put the clamps down" on pirates, the more publicity it gets. They're making some of these stations almost into folk heroes (i.e. RNI) when no one woulda cared otherwise. I wonder how big the scene'll get if they go after more stations? Speaking of such, I got a letter and newspaper clipping from someone associated with WTRA, the 1w Chicago FM pirate. If you'd like to write to the station's associate (I guess he knows the op pretty well), his add is: Mike Townsend, Associate Professor, Sangamon State Univ., Springfield, IL 62794. The group is working with getting other low-power stations on the air, so this should be of interest to everyone.

* * * * * WV Maildrop Sked to Change * * * * *

It was bound to happen, and it finally did. Because of a change in jobs, I'm moving and thus, the maildrop is moving with me.

So every station that is presently using the West Virginia address can now be contacted at: PO Box 109, Blue Ridge Summit, PA 17214.

The West Virginia address is still good for the next few months, so if you recently sent something there, don't worry. It will be sent to the intended station.

What this all means is that, until June, feel free to write to either address for this column, Pirate Pages, or any of the stations using the address. Or if you have a station which uses the address and you haven't talked to me about it yet, feel free to use either until June. After the beginning of June, only the Blue Ridge Summit address will be in use.

Eventually, we'll find an apartment and I'll print the new phone # in here for those of ya who like to call.

* * * * *

Well, pirate activity was certainly interesting over the 3/24 weekend! Just loaded with pirates in QSO! A few things to remember about QSOs, tho, if you are pirating. #1) the radio is not a telephone; don't stay on talking for hours #2) If you personally know the op you're talking to, don't stay on for a long time! Long-distance rates are high, but they're alot lower than a \$1000 fine! Still, QSOs are important for some ops (I'd bet that Pirate R.Int'l & some of the others learned alot from their QSOs) & they're great to hear. Just remember no to get carried away.

I've gotta thank Bob Bohn for tippin me off on Pirate R.New England. Speaking of such matters, does anyone have any information on Telco loop numbers? I thought the companies closed them of about 5 years ago, but PRN was on with a working loop.

Rockabilly R: I know some non-ACE DXers who'd like QSLs. Could ya please write to me about it? I'd sure appreciate one, too. Thanx in advance.

WENJ suffers FCC encounter; Beane continues oldies show

By Don Bishop
P.O. Box 4075
Overland Park, KS 66204-0075

On a day in 1984, well before Radio Newyork International (RNI) was to come (and go), making national news with pirate broadcasts from a ship anchored near New York, pirate station WENJ first was reported in *The ACE*. The frequency RNI made notorious, 1620 kHz, had seen a new pirate's first appearance.

Jack Beane, a DJ on the new pirate station, flipped an old 45 rpm record onto the turntable, switched on his 150-watt transmitter and began broadcasting from Edison, New Jersey, as WENJ, "Your New Jersey pirate, pirate, pirate!"

Voice mailbox service

In 1988, Beane began offering a something unique among pirate broadcasters: voice mailbox service. Listeners could telephone requests, ask for QSL cards and leave their own phone numbers for a return call from Beane himself.

"[Pirate broadcasters] are mildly disturbed individuals."--Serge Loginow, FCC engineer

"If a station abuses the airwaves, it should be shut down."--Jack Beane, WENJ disk jockey

The number changed at least once during the next two years. But as recently as March 13, a call to 201-525-7960 brought the following message delivered by a woman with a lilting accent: "Hello. You have reached WENJ, 'J-rock.' If you would like to receive a QSL, leave your name and address, and

spell it out clearly so we can send it to you." The WENJ mailbox voice is the same as the voice heard on the recorded announcement played on its main telephone number by the company that provides the voice messaging service.

FM frequency announced

By late May 1988, WENJ announced it had added FM service on 108.3 MHz, although no ACE listeners reported picking up the FM broadcasts. Shortwave service began Dec. 11, 1988, with two broadcasts on 6250 kHz. A week later, Beane said he intended to use 6240 kHz, 7415 kHz and 7480 kHz, too.

Christmas Day, WENJ inaugurated service on the most popular pirate band, using 7415 kHz. WENJ's frequency selection parallels RNI's and other pirates' choices. RNI used 1620 kHz and 6240 kHz; 7415 kHz has been popular with many other pirate stations.

WENJ's shortwave signal drew the attention of the FCC's long-range direction-finding network.



WENJ's studio setup may have been inside the room FCC engineer Serge Loginow was not permitted to see. The equipment includes two Pioneer auto-reverse reel-to-reel tape decks, two turntables, a Tamon audio equalizer, a Gates cart machine, a dbx 160 audio limiter and a Radio Shack audio mixer.

During my Dec. 24, 1988, visit to the FCC's Grand Island, Nebraska, monitoring station, WENJ's call letters showed on a teletype video display. The 13 FCC monitoring stations communicate among themselves with teletype. That morning, the Belfast, Maine, monitoring station heard WENJ on 6240 kHz and asked other stations for assistance in obtaining a bearing "fix." WENJ was inaudible in Grand Island.

The 'visit'

A July 1989 WENJ broadcast on 7415 kHz led FCC New York office electronics engineer Serge Loginow to the Edison, New Jersey, home of two Howard Fraileys--father and son. When I telephoned the Frailey residence Feb. 10 and 17, 1990, the elder Frailey answered. He confirmed nothing and referred inquiries about WENJ to his son, who has been unreachable.

Loginow found WENJ's signal emanating from a wire antenna in a tree. "I did not go inside the house," Loginow said. The engineer returned later and spoke with the house's occupants. "They turned out to be the parents of the individual who operated the station," he said. "The parents would not let me into their son's room."

Loginow said he later spoke with their son, who he said appeared to be in his late 30s. "He admitted to operating." The New York office issued a \$750 fine to Howard Frailey. WENJ retains a certain amount of mystery because the younger Howard Frailey has not responded to letters sent to his former address in Edison, phone messages left with his father or messages left in the WENJ voice mailbox requesting an interview.

Loginow's Impressions

Loginow, who traced his first pirate in 1978, is unimpressed by pirates. "What they get interested in, I'm certainly not interested in." Asked what stands out about pirates, he said little. "They are mildly disturbed individuals."

Loginow said he had no evidence of any recurrence of WENJ operation from the Edison location. "But there is another WENJ that was on the air at the time and it still is active, though it rarely broadcasts."

Jack Beane: "If it weren't for the military, I might not be a pirate broadcaster."

WENJ returns

In 1990, *ACE* readers began hearing WENJ broadcasts once again, though the station apparently was silent for six months after being busted. On a Jan. 7 broadcast, for the first time in the New Year, Jack Beane was heard on 7415 kHz, playing oldies and giving out the voice mailbox telephone number.

Jan. 15 brought another broadcast, with Beane commenting that the station had been off the air because of "FCC heat" and the station's mail drop operator "giving out too much information."

An apparent new location

Frailey's father said his son has moved out of the house. Reception reports indicate the station may have relocated. Previously, more listeners along the east coast reported hearing the station. Now, listeners in the Great Lakes region hear the station more often than those in other parts of the country.

An unnamed writer interviewed Beane last year. The interview, apparently conducted by mail with a list of questions, was printed in the extraordinary combined March/April/May/June 1989 *Free Air*, as *The ACE* then was called.

"I started [in pirate radio] when I was in high school electronics class," Beane said. "I built a wireless AM broadcaster kit with a 100-foot range. My sister and I used it to play radio station DJs." A schoolmate helped Beane build a 5-watt amplifier that extended the transmitter's range to about 3 miles.

Military trains Beane

Four years in the military, repairing radios, gave Beane further skills. "I went to radio school for nine months, then served in Germany at a communications site," he said. "If it weren't for the military, I might not be a pirate broadcaster."



WENJ's transmitter setup includes a homemade modulator and a homemade transmitter that boasts a pair of 6146B electron tubes in push-pull. The transmitter feeds a 130-foot horizontal 'L' antenna.

Returning stateside, Beane resumed pirate broadcasting and sought a higher powered transmitter. Based in part on military schematics he copied and studied, in 1975 he built a new transmitter from scratch "with beefy, 150-watt output tubes--still the transmitter I use today." His next goal was to boost the power to 500 watts.

Beane saw the FCC looking over his shoulder: "A pirate radio broadcaster's main fear is getting busted by the FCC. WENJ does not abuse the airwaves as some pirates do. We do not use profane language or make fun of our listeners. If a station abuses the airwaves, it should be shut down."

No manager on his back

Beane said the most exciting part of broadcasting is programming the station without having a manager on his back. "I get to pick the music I want. I enjoy getting out-of-state DX reports; sitting there, looking at the transmitter; and saying to myself 'Good job, Jack.' Being a pirate just gives me a thrill I cannot begin to explain."

Prompt QSLs

Listeners' experiences with WENJ have included prompt return of QSL cards in response to reception reports telephoned to the voice mailbox.

"I consider myself one of the best pirates around when it comes to QSLing my listeners," Beane said. "I usually get all the mail out the next day because I know how frustrating it is to log a pirate and never receive a QSL. I ask listeners to leave their telephone numbers because it is fun speaking with them. Long distance calls are fairly cheap and it is worth it to speak with listeners."

Thanks for your support

Beane said he likes to hear WENJ listeners' opinions. He likes to find out how readable his signal is and to learn what receiving equipment listeners use. "I wish a lot of the other pirates would get into this habit and avoid giving out false addresses that cause listeners' mail to be returned. I want to thank all my listeners for their loggings and support." WENJ continues to be heard in the 41-meter band on 7415 kHz.

CLANDESTINE PROFILE by George Zeller

Your loggings and information on clandestine radio stations are always welcome for this column. You can mail them to your editor at 3492 West 123rd Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44111. Or, you can call (216) 941-3366 anytime, or alternatively (216) 696-9077 between 1200-2045 UTC. We have a HUGE amount of good material this month, so let's get right into it.

FRANCE INVOLVED IN FORTHCOMING CHINESE MEDIUM WAVE PIRATE/CLANDESTINE

April's hot clandestine news comes to us from the March 19 issue of *Newsweek* magazine. A new anti-China clandestine, which expects to ID as Radio Voice of Democracy in China, is scheduled to begin operations in April. A French monthly publication, *Actuel*, plans to operate the station from a ship anchored off the coast of the People's Republic of China! French journalist Christophe Nick is the driving force behind this new station. An old cargo ship, recently rechristened as the "Goddess of Democracy," has already sailed from France with a "high-power transmitter" on board. The *Newsweek* report indicates that the new station will use an unspecified medium wave frequency, and will broadcast from both a shipboard transmitter and unidentified additional "relay stations near Chinese borders." Nick anticipates a signal coverage area of "Tibet to Inner Mongolia," and he hopes to evade anticipated jamming by the use of multiple transmitter sites. Programming will reportedly include news, rock, messages from Chinese exiles, and talk shows fed by a call-in line that will have access to all telephones in the People's Republic of China. The station claims to be financed through private donations, and it apparently is also selling a multilingual recording of John Lennon's "Imagine" to assist in the fund raising. The *Newsweek* story does not mention overt or covert funding from any governments, but it would be no surprise if some western intelligence agencies have their mitts somewhere in this new operation.

In 1989, Radio Caroline suffered from a well-publicized raid conducted by the Dutch Coast Guard, reportedly with British and French officials as bystanders and co-conspirators. However, the French government does not yet seem to have expressed any outrage or opposition toward this new illegal pirate and/or clandestine station that is now heading for China from a French port. They seemed concerned with QRM on the European MW band from Caroline, but there is a deafening lack of concern for QRM on the Asian MW bands from Radio Voice of Democracy in China. The obvious hypocrisy is nothing new. Numerous governments, including that of the United States, continue to bust pirate and clandestine stations from time to time that do not carry sanction from these governments. However, the same governments operate equally illegal stations themselves, and sometimes condone or ignore clandestine operations like this one for political reasons. We can now add France to the known list of governments who have two-faced radio policies. We should not confuse national governments with concepts like legality or consistency. It would be a good idea for us to keep our eyes open for breaking news on this new Chinese clandestine, although it will probably be an extraordinarily difficult DX catch in North America, on medium wave. (Here is a challenge for some A*C*E west coast members who occasionally lament the relative lack of audible pirate activity in western North America!) *Newsweek* quotes Christophe Nick as follows: "This is not some pirate counterpropaganda thing. This is a free press radio."

BIG NEWS ABOUT LA VOZ DE LA FUNDACION

We have a considerable amount of news this month involving the relatively new clandestine voice of the Cuban American National Foundation. First, A*C*E member Rich D'Angelo of Pennsylvania reports that he received a signed and stamped prepared QSL from La Voz de la Fundacion in 34 days, with an enclosed sticker for "The Cuban American National Foundation." A semi-legible verification signer appears to be Amosla Perez. Rich thanks the A*C*E and Gerry Dexter for the Suite 104 address in Miami that worked for him. But, Rich notes that the return envelope bore the address of "La Voz de la Fundacion, Post Office Box 440069, Miami, Florida 33144." This new address is probably the best one to use at the moment for a speedy reply from this station.

In the loggings department, A*C*E's Bob Ross of Ontario heard the nightly relay of Fundacion over WHRI in Indiana on February 21 from 0110-0120+ UTC on 7315 KHz. As Rich D'Angelo pointed out last month, this relay is parallel to 9495 KHz with excellent signals, and it runs until 0200*. Bob noted folk music, mentions of Havana and Cuba, and slogans such as "Libertad" and "Cuba Libre Democratica."

Now for the big news. Well known Universal Press Syndicate columnist Georgie Anne Geyer, in a column printed in the March 15 edition of the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, charges that the Cuban American National Foundation is in the process of taking over Radio Marti! Geyer reports an in-progress "brazen takeover" of Radio Marti by Jorge Mas Canosa. Geyer says that Mas, head of the Cuban American National Foundation, wants to be the replacement for Fidel Castro as President of Cuba. He has removed "respected" Radio Marti director Ernesto Batancourt, and is now trying to install "Mas' totally inexperienced and quiet friend Antonio Navarro" as Batancourt's replacement by the end of March. Geyer says that Navarro, "who has no experience in broadcasting," would be a front man for a takeover of Marti by the CANF. Geyer also reports a deal between Mas, Miami's licensed television station on channel 23, and the forthcoming (?) TV Marti to broadcast television programming to Cuba "this winter." Mas allegedly would control the first TV Marti broadcasts through the Cuban American National Foundation, not through TV Marti or the United States Information Agency.

Geyer charges that "this is against government laws, regulations, and guidelines." She claims that Marti's current reputation for objectivity will suffer, that it will illegally be controlled by a "special interest group (or) organization" (the CANF), and that it will become a mouthpiece for Mas and the Foundation as he attempts to have himself installed as the President of Cuba. The whole thing would also be funded by USA taxpayers in an amount exceeding \$16 million.

In her column, Geyer called on USA President George Bush and Bruce Gelb (the Bush-appointed USIA Director) to stop Mas' takeover. However, the issue is fascinating, and it opens up many avenues for future speculation. Might La Voz de la Fundacion take over TV Marti, or even Radio Marti? What would this do to the shortwave relays of Fundacion programming by WHRI and/or Radio Clarin? Stay tuned!

LAST CHANCE TO HEAR NICARAGUAN CONTRA STATIONS?

The stunning electoral defeat of Daniel Ortega and the Sandanista government in Nicaragua means that the future of both Radio Quince de Septiembre and Radio Miskut are now open to some question. The March 24 edition of the Cleveland Plain Dealer reported that the Contras agreed on March 23 to disband by April 20. If they genuinely disband, what will happen to their USA government-funded clandestine radio stations? Alternatively, will the Sandanistas feel the need to start up another clandestine station similar to the old Radio Sandino? We should pay close attention to 6214.5 and 5560 KHz during April. Who knows what may happen? Vince Havrilko of Florida noted Radio Miskut on February 24 on 5560 KHz from 2253-2300* UTC, and Radio Quince de Septiembre on 6214+ KHz at 2310 UTC on February 26. John Barnard of Ontario reports that Quince was still on 6215- KHz at 0015-0031* UTC on March 5. The time to log these Contra clandestine stations is NOW! Their behavior may also be an excellent indicator of future USA intentions in Nicaragua under the new and evolving political circumstances.

Let us not forget the licensed quasi-clandestine Radio Impacto in Coata Rica. A*C*E member Rian Raleigh of Nevada hears them nightly with a fine signal on 5044 KHz until 0600* UTC. Your editor heard them on March 23 still using 5044 KHz, but they still occasionally shift back to their old and nominal frequency of 5030 KHz. This one variously has concentrated on Panama, Colombia, Nicaragua, and Cuba with pro-USA and anti-leftist programming in recent months. The new political situation in Nicaragua means that Radio Impacto is also a good station to watch closely in the near future. Gerry Dexter has a nice article that discusses Impacto in the April issue of PopComm.

WSHB MOVES OFF 7400 KHZ DURING NORTH AMERICAN EVENINGS

During normal months, this item would probably be the lead story in this column. But, this is not a normal month! Pirate and clandestine DX-ers have undoubtedly noticed the newly quiet conditions in the evenings on 41 meters that have resulted following the recent frequency move of WSHB from 7400 KHz to 9455 KHz. At the Winter SWL Festival in Philadelphia in late February, WSHB Chief Engineer Bob German told your editor that the station planned to make this move on February 25. Sure enough, I have noted them since then on their new 9455 KHz channel. Bob said that they made this move to avoid co-channel QRM from the Cuban relay of Moscow programming on 7400 KHz. While WSHB was clearly associated with the annoying hiss noise on 41 meters that has been discussed for the last few months in A*C*E, the Cuban transmitter does not appear to be generating any similar noise. HOORAY! Let us thankfully chalk up an assist to Fidel Castro on this one. As a result of the move, DX-ers can now clearly hear WSHB, the Cuban 7400 relay of Moscow stuff, and all adjacent channel programming operating +/- 20 KHz around 7400 with no more hiss noise!

A*C*E member Don Bishop of Kansas writes to commend the excellent recent cooperation between WSHB, A*C*E, and the DX-ing community. Your editor heartily seconds this motion! Thanks, Bob German! Keep up the good work at WSHB! It is good to see a station like WSHB that takes a cooperative stance with DX-ers and ANARC clubs, and it was also good to see WSHB in attendance at and in support of this year's very successful Winter SWL Festival. Congratulations should also go to Bob Brown for organizing the highly successful third annual Fest, where attendance exceeded 150!

BOB ROSS RADIO LIBERTAS QSL

Our hot QSL correspondent Bob Ross checks in this month with another addition to his extensive collection. Bob nabbed a full data station card and personal letter for the Radio Libertas relay over WHRI on 11790 KHz in two months for Canadian mint stamps. Verification signer Vivian Giamulin (Assistant Producer) listed the transmitter site on the QSL. The successful address used by Bob was via the Croation Committee for Human Rights, 1174 Clarkson Road, Mississauga, Ontario L5J 2W2, Canada. Congratulations, Bob!

RADIO TRUTH AND SOUTHERN AFRICAN CLANDESTINES

A*C*E member John Barnard, noting the rapidly changing political situation in South Africa, writes in to ask if Radio Truth is still on the air. For an answer to this question, we turn to issues #1053 (March 9) and #1054 (March 16) of the Numero Uno newsletter. Former A*C*E member Kirk Allen of Oklahoma (where have you been, Kirk?) heard Radio Truth as usual on 5015 KHz from 0421-0437+ UTC. Prior to 0430 it was in a local language, but after 0430 the program was in English. His log came on March 5 with a good signal. Clandestine expert Vashek Korinek of South Africa also reports their schedule in NU as 0400-0500 and 1700-1800 UTC on 5015 KHz, but he speculates that "I wonder how long it will last?" Only the 0400 UTC transmission is audible in North America, of course. Korinek also refers to a new "U.S. funded" African clandestine with an ID of "Radio Siboney," scheduled from 1900-2030v UTC on 6100 KHz with an address of Centro del Pueblo de Cuba, Post Office Box 450214, Miami, Florida 33245. Siboney is presumably targeted to Cubans still in Angola, while Radio Truth has always targeted Zimbabwe. That Miami address for Siboney sure looks similar to the addresses of a few other anti-Cuban clandestines that have operated over the years.

MISCELLANEOUS EL SALVADOR CLANDESTINE INFORMATION

We are so loaded with material this month that we will have to move into an abbreviated gonzo mode for a while. Vince Havrilko and John Barnard both noted Radio Venceremos in late February and early March on constantly jumping frequencies around 6340v KHz and 6850v KHz in the 0000-0230+ UTC time period. The station continues a usually successful war with its music and "black" passive jammers. John notes that the two frequencies in use at any given time are in parallel. Steve Forrest of Ohio also called to point out that Radio Faradundo Marti sometimes still pops up in the 6340 KHz vicinity around 0300 UTC. Both stations inevitably create fascinating listening as they jump frequencies constantly. On the same subject, Rich D'Angelo sends in a correction of your editor's mistake in the March Clandestine Profile. Rich says that the San Francisco address for Radio Faradundo Marti is defunct, but that Jaime Suriano has proven that the New York address (that was also listed in the March column) is in fact good.

CUBAN CLANDESTINES ARE STILL THERE WITH EXCELLENT SIGNALS

Like Radio Venceremos, La Voz del CID still booms forth daily toward Cuba. Their 9941.7 KHz transmitter was heard in the 2300-0400 UTC time frame in February and March by Vince Havrilko and your editor. John Barnard confirms that they still move to 6305 late in the evening, such as John's logging on March 5 with a fine 6305 KHz signal from 0600-0630+ UTC. Rian Raleigh also notes the mysterious anti-Castro Radio Caiman nightly with its well heard transmitter on 9965 KHz. Gerry Dexter's aforementioned April PopComm article also has a nice current discussion of Caiman.

PIRATE STATION ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Frank Marauder of Zodiac Radio wrote in this month with some very nice complimentary remarks on the Clandestine Profile column. Thanks, Frank, but I'm sorry to hear of the recent Zodiac bust rumors. Also on the pirate bust front, Conrad Dalton of Secret Society Radio wrote in to complain about the FCC's recent illegal seizure of his receivers. I'm sure that other A*C*E columns will be discussing this Gestapo situation in April and May. Also, yesterday I received the most unusual pirate QSL that has ever graced my mail box. It was not only my 75th different pirate station QSL'ed (congratulations to your editor from your editor on this significant milestone), but it was a QSL for a pirate broadcast from the FCC! Dennis J. Everett of the FCC Field Operations Bureau verified my report on the WHBH bust announcement broadcast made over the WHBH transmitter by FCC agent Ellington! Look for full details on this highly unusual QSL in next month's Varied Response column by John T. Arthur.

THANKS!

April's record-breaking turnout for this column from A*C*E members was outstanding! We have a lot of great stuff this month, thanks to direct contributors Bob Ross (Ontario), Vince Havrilko (Florida), John Barnard (Ontario), Rich D'Angelo (Pennsylvania), Frank Marauder (North America), Conrad Dalton (Virginia), Gerry Dexter (Wisconsin), Rian Raleigh (Nevada), Don Bishop (Kansas), Steve Forrest (Ohio and WLWT-TV!), Bob German (South Carolina), and George Zeller (Ohio). We also thank indirect contributor Fidel Castro (Cuba), who has helped to clear up the 41 meter band in the evenings. Next month we hope to hear from YOU! by April 20 for the May Clandestine Profile column.

HAVANA MOON
117 W. Harrison Building
6th Floor, Suite H-319
Chicago, IL 60605

=====
Cool on the cobalt water
Crackling in the spray
White light and
Spring moon

-- kurichan

1700	Sun	"
2000	Mon	"
1900	Mon	"

IT'S AN OUTRAGE!

Remember just a few days back? More specifically, March 12-18. Drawing a blank? Well it's an outrage, folks - for National Shortwave Radio Week has come and gone - with - to my knowledge - nary a mention.

But of course there's always next year - and the year after that - and on and on - or put simply, the second full week of March each year hereafter. The week to be listed in Chase's Annual Events - a book frequently consulted by media people as a source of story ideas. And now is certainly not too early to formulate some type of plan to attract greater media attention to shortwave radio in all of its aspects and applications. Let's not ignore it in 1991 like we did in 1990. Let's get our act together.

Given some effort by all of us, Shortwave Radio Week has the potential to benefit everyone who has an interest in shortwave radio. Let's pull together on this one!

RACING WITH THE MOON

Our first "Pirate Chasing By The Light Of The Smuggler's Moon" was a terrific success - the Portal* Amigas had the surprise of their collective lives when they tuned to 7416 kHz on 2/24 only to hear Zodiac Radio's Frank Marauder greet them during a live broadcast!

Unfortunately, looks like SOMEBODY ELSE heard it too - and arrived shortly thereafter to spoil the fun. A salute to you, Frank - and if you haven't received it yet - watch your mailbox for a special "Pirate o'the Month" certificate from "Los Numeros."

Racing backwards in time - back to The February, 1985 edition of The A*C*E - that's the one with a *VERY* clever cartoon on the front cover - of a mobile Spanish Numbers station. Now if your collection doesn't go back this far - I can arrange for you to get a copy of this very unique ACE cover. Artwork was by R. Martinez.

In 1985, A*C*E Members were reading about Underground 90, Free Radio 1615, Global American Network, Medieval Radio, Voice of the Phoenix and Voice of Tomorrow. Clandestines reported included La Voz de Alpha 66, La Voz de CID and Radio Venceremos. Lani Petit's "Spy Centre" reported numerous numbers intercepts and John T. Arthur's "Veried Response" presented a letter from Tangerine Radio's Raunchy Rick.

And while we're looking back in time - you might want to check the 8/87 issue of Popular Science. That was their special bugging issue, folks. Enough said?

A nice mention for The A*C*E in the April edition of Pop'Comm - "A while back it seemed as though the group had lost its momentum and we hadn't heard much of value from or about them. Recently, however, new leadership moved in, refurbished the organization and its publication and it looks like it's back on track ..."

HM's ELECTRONIC RECEPTION REPORT

Message #9253 "Shortwave Radio" RECEIVED
Date: 13-Feb-90 12:13
To: HAVANA MOON
From: Brian Johnson
Subj: Re: Numbers Stations

Thanks for the information. By the way... here is another numbers

* Numbers 101, Part 5 *

The Papa November Stations -

These German numbers transmissions are known to transmit in two formats, 5-D and 3/2. In each case, throughout the 'header' portion of the transmission, distinctive and repetitive musical tones are played. Papa November stations are not often heard in North America, but recent loggings might indicate that more frequent transmissions are being made.

Papa November is repeated four times - and each quartet is followed by musical tones. This is repeated for several minutes, followed by the identifier, group count and "Achtung." The crypt then follows in one of the two formats described above. Four different female announcers have been noted on PN transmissions.

AND NOW...

PAPA NOVEMBER INTERCEPTS

2707 kHz	1200 UTC	Sun 5-D	GG	DM/GB
2707	0000	Tue 5-D	GG	"
5015	1230	Fri 5-D	GG	"
5015	1200 USB	Sun 5-D	GG	"
5015	0000	Tue 5-D	GG	"
5015	0000	* 3/2	GG	kk/NY
5015	2330 USB	* 3/2	GG	"
7404	1230 USB	Fri 5-D	GG	DM/GB
7405	1200	Sun 5-D	GG	"

* These transmissions have been noted on most weekdays.

<All modes in the above are AM except where otherwise noted.>

STATIONS WITH CALLSIGNS

As promised in last month's A*C*E, the following intercepts detail transmissions made by stations which actually identify themselves with callsigns. All transmission modes are assumed to be AM.

3370 kHz	2200 UTC	Th 5-D	GG	DFC37	DM/GB
	2000	Mon			"
	1700	Sun			"
	2100	Wed			"
	1900	Mon			"
4010 kHz	2300	Sat 5-D	GG	DFD21	DM/GB
	2100	Wed			"
	2200	Th			"

station which I monitored last night on 6,840 kHz (USB). As usual it was a Spanish speaking YL with the following combinations repeated several times:

3109 7337
3109 7337
3109 7337
3109 7337

This kept going on for ten minutes before she quit. I monitored this from 0230 UTC to 0240 UTC. Usually, when I hear a numbers station, I hear random combinations. Just for the heck of it I tried tuning to 7,337 kHz to see what would happen and all I got was CHU (off frequency) Canada.

I tried tuning to 3,109 kHz and there was nothing down there. I thought I would give it a try anyway. In a numbers transmission, where is the reference frequency usually given (the one which you would tune for further messages)?

--- QuickBBS v.2.62 [Reg]

* Origin: The Santee Experiment | QuickBBS/FD/QMX | 619-562-8758
(1:202/702)

Interesting observations - I've been watching that frequency for a number of weeks - the transmission Brian reports on comes up every night at 0230 - never a header or a terminator - but every time I have monitored it, it has been a random 5-D transmission. This logging is very interesting.

6840 kHz is a very busy place these days. All sorts of transmissions can be found there - 3/2 English, 5-D Spanish, 5-L Phonetic - not to mention "The Foghorn."

Note - Brian's search pattern makes good sense. It has been noted on some few occasions that the repeat frequency is transmitted in the clear in the last group of the primary transmission - this doesn't happen often and could be coincidental - let me know what you find!

CONTRIBUTORS CORNER

Mark Pierce, David Markwick, Potato-Chip, Jeepster, Zel Eaton, John Fulford, Brian Johnson, Andrew Tannenbaum, Jim Bishop and kk.

HM'S YL OF THE MONTH

This new feature has been very well received! And the YLOTM award goes this month to Potato-Chip, a newcomer to Shortwave Radio who has developed a real knack for locating unusual numbers transmissions very quickly, indeed! She's gone straight to the head of the *RADIO*101* Class! Now you aren't going to believe what she caught for the Portal* Amigas - you OMs are going to gnash your teeth and rend your clothing over this one!

----->>> The Gypsy Violin <<<-----

and that's not all, guys - this transmission <at 0500 UTC on 6825 kHz, on 3/25> was complete with Romanian numbers! Now if you know anything about rare numbers transmissions, you know that the Gypsy Violin is elusive - and when caught - is generally noted to send a frantic violin rendition of Ciocerlier's "The Skylark" <hence the "Gypsy Violin" nickname> but *VERY* rarely any traffic. In fact, Gerry Dexter's article entitled "I Love A Mystery" in the 3/90 edition of Popular Communications indicates the last known logging of this station to have been in 1986!

And *I* have a tape! Usual deal - \$3.00, a blank cassette and a self-addressed mailer with \$.90 postage to The A*C*E post office box will get you a copy. As always, proceeds to The A*C*E Treasury.

So *COME ON* fellas - these YL's are outdoing us on a regular basis! Let's get our act together! Congratulations, Chippie!!

Given the recent political events in Rumania the sudden reappearance of this station is curious to say the least. It certainly raises the age-old question once again - what is the purpose of a numbers transmission? Comments, anyone?

HAVANA MOON RECOMMENDS

For The Intelligence Bookshelf

"The Cuckoo's Egg," by Clifford Stoll - describes the chase and capture of a KGB spy ring which had incredible luck in its many attempts to break its way into Arpanet and Milnet computer systems. This is a true story - and one that will make you sit up and take notice. NSA, CIA and FBI did. From Doubleday.

"Come Retribution: The Confederate Secret Service and the Assassination of Lincoln" by Tidwell, Hall and Gaddy, from University of Mississippi Press.

"Key Documents On The Role Of Communications Intelligence in the War With Japan", edited by Ronald H. Spector, from Scholarly Resources. This publication is highly recommended for every past and present member of the COMINT community.

"Thwarting Enemies At Home And Abroad: How To Be A Counterintelligence Officer," by William R. Johnson, published by Stone Trail Press.

And from Zel Eaton's LN column - "Intrigue - And More Intrigue" - comes the following -- "From the Changing Times column of the 4/1/90 edition of Privileged Information, "The Mysterious Case of the Dying Scientists."

The article discusses the intriguing deaths of 25 British scientists since 1982. Seems most of the deaths are attributed to accidents and/or suicide. The most "intriguing among these was the death of a young Marconi computer expert who left this plane of existence by tying one end of a rope around a tree and the other around his neck. He then got in his automobile and drove away at top speed...

"All of these people worked on various defense-related projects (apparently for the British Government) prior to their demise."

"The column quotes an unnamed US Intelligence expert as concluding that it "is probable that an enemy intelligence service was involved." It is always intriguing to know that our experts in government can make determinations off the record that governments themselves can never bring themselves to speculate on ... or admit to ..."

STAY TUNED

For Part II of The Numbers Feature on Radio Netherlands "Media Network" with Jonathan Marks - and yours truly. Broadcast date is scheduled for 4/18 - Media Network is heard best in North America at 0030 UTC on 6020, 6165 and 15315 kHz, and at 0330 on 9590 and 11720 kHz. Time is Thursday night, local.

For upcoming special features on Los Numeros On-Line - some great live items in the works - including teleconferences with Cliff Stoll, author of the best-selling "The Cuckoo's Egg" - see HM Recommends, above - and representatives of the new Chinese political clandestine - Voice of June Fourth. Come on along and join in the fun! And don't forget - Pirate Chasing By The Smuggler's Moon - last Saturday of the month. Every month!

THE LAST WORD

From 'kk' once again - our resident computer expert - the YL who seems to have a knack for making the technical non-technical - and convince you that you're having fun while she's at it. Thing is - when she's done - you find that you're both smarter - and happier - and looking around for more! So adelante, kk!

Thanks, HM!

Now - it seems to me that radio folk are naturals for other electronic hobbies - so it's no wonder that so many of you have computers on your desks. But did you know that there's a whole world beyond your word processing, database and spreadsheet software? A world that's full of fun and information - and it's only a phone call away. All you need is a small electronic device called a 'modem' to plug into that PC of yours - and the telephone line - and a bright new world awaits!

<And you Commodore users needn't be ashamed - brush the dust off that trusty old workhorse - you can come along for the ride, too!>

There are hundreds of spots for you to visit on your electronic itinerary - and many of these can be reached by dialing a local telephone number - even if they're thousands of miles away. Nope - I'm not kidding - the trick is something called PC Pursuit - a service of Telenet - through which you can buy blocks of computer connect time for as little as \$.83/hour. Mmmmmm - that's right. Not a typo. \$.83/hour. To call *ANY* system in *ANY* supported city/exchange. Intrigued? I thought you might be!

For more information - just drop me a line at PO Box 149, Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510 - and enclose a SASE. For those of you who've already been bitten by the bug - try these on for size - The Long Wave Database System at 703/528-7753 (DCWAS) or Scan Virginia at 804/796-6828. And tell 'em 'kk' sent you! More to come in May.

88s

'kk'

Thanks go to Gerry Dexter, Joe Webb of Link-Up Magazine, John McColman of NE Scanner News, John Little & Company at Portal* Communications, all the "Los Numeros" On-Line Contributing Editors, the Saturday Night Amigas, Ansel King, Mr. Trump and The Amiga.

Adios . . .

See you at the Denny's on the Beach. Time now for a Tecate and . . .

Havana Moon y Amigas
33469

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Continued from page 18

News from Europe

Some of the biggest news lately has been the slight shift of stations from 48 and 41m into 19m. Although only a handful of stations are using these frequencies, no stations were about a year ago. So, in that sense, it's a great improvement and more stations will probably begin broadcasting up there as well.

European stations heard on 19m lately include: WMR (Scotland) 19040 kHz, Radio Northlight (W.Germany) 15040, Eurosat A. (Holland) 15040, Eurosat B. (Holland) 15040, Freaks Broadcasting Service (W.Germany) 15090, Quality A (Holland) 15090, Voice of the Netherlands (Holland) 15090.

A few other good North American targets include the various night-time broadcasts. A few of these include: WMR (Scotland) various, Radio Northlight (W.Germany) 15040, Eurosat A. (Holland) 15040, Eurosat B. (Holland) 15040, Freaks Broadcasting Service (W.Germany) 15090, Quality A (Holland) 15090, Voice of the Netherlands (Holland) 15090.

Many of these are also available on 48m and 41m. Thanks to you for the info!

The List:

Stations	Years
WRNR	1987-1989
RFM	1987-1989
R/Confusion	1987-1989
VoPurple Jump	1987-1989
S. VIMY	1987-1989
	1982
	1984-1985

Pirate

LA Radio, a pirate radio station, is being operated by Chinese sailors on a ship. The ship is named 'The Dragon' and is currently in the waters off the coast of China. The vessel was dedicated a week ago by French singer-actor Yves Montand and Chinese dissident leader Wu'er Kaixi. It is sponsored by 18 news organizations in several countries, including the magazine Actuel in France and in collaboration with the Federation for Democracy in China. The ship, operated by 11 French sailors, contains two radio studios and a television studio. The vessel is expected to arrive in international waters off the coast of China between April 20 and April 25. It will broadcast programs of music and news.

ASSOCIATION OF CLANDESTINE RADIO ENTHUSIASTS
P. O. Box 11201
Shawnee Mission, KS 66207-0201

The A*C*E is an association of individuals who find pirate, clandestine and covert communications an interesting part of their radio listening hobby. The primary existence of the club revolves around the publication of a monthly bulletin, The A*C*E. The bulletin reports on pirate, clandestine, covert and other unexplained broadcasts. Also, the readers are provided with other available material concerning motives, explanations and theories behind these various broadcasts and broadcasters. The ACE as an organization, does not encourage, support or condone any illegal activity; we simply seek to understand the nature and reasoning behind such broadcasts. If your interests include listening to pirate radio stations, clandestine broadcasts and covert communications, The A*C*E is for you!!

Our Editors...

John Arthur Varied Response
Kirk Baxter Dialogs
Don Bishop Features
Harry Helms Covert Corner
Havana Moon The Los Numeros Update
Andrew Yoder DX Clip Board
George Zeller Clandestine Profile

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